

I wish to express my strong opposition to the National Association of Broadcasters' petition 04-160, currently before the F.C.C.. The fact that I have elected to purchase a satellite receiver and pay a monthly fee to receive radio services, obviously indicates that I perceive these services to be meeting my needs better than commercial over the air radio, that I could get for free.

Now, these subscription services wish to enhance their offerings even more by offering local traffic and weather. I wholly support this idea.

I have used the traffic and weather services and find them to be superior in several ways.

First, the frequency of the reports and the detail contained in the reports. Commercial radio must fit in a very rushed and abbreviated report, in between commercials and other programming. In most cases, these reports are seldom timely and the presentation is so abbreviated that the details I would find of value are not contained in the report. As for the frequency of the reports, on XM satellite radio, I know when they will be there and can tune to them as I wish. On commercial radio, one must know the time of day, usually limited to rush hours, and the time periods within the hour that the reports are made, across a variety of stations. This seldom meets my needs. When I see traffic in the distance, I want access to information about the severity as soon as possible so I can take alternative routes if necessary.

Second, my career dictates that I travel frequently on business. With XM satellite radio, I can check on weather and traffic issues, IN MY CITY OF DESTINATION for that day, at any time. I find this to be a great advantage and as I society has becomes increasing mobile, I am sure many others agree with me.

Third, when I arrive at the city I am travelling to, I can find weather and traffic information immediately, regardless of the time of day. As a frequent traveler, it is very difficult to remember the schedules for radio stations in the many cities that I frequently travel to, muchless the ones that I visit infrequently.

In summation XM satellite radio provides a service that I find so valuable that I have elected to pay a monthly fee for access to their services.

This fact obviously shows that the local commercially supported broadcasters are not meeting my needs with there free services.

A recent NAB press release stated, "But there is no doubt the 175 million daily listeners of local radio stations know that the best and most reliable source for news, school closings, and weather and traffic alerts continues to be their local broadcasters."

If this is indeed the case, then there efforts by the NAB, and action by the F.C.C. to prevent me and nearly two million other subscribers, a number which is growing by 150,000 a day, are totally unnecessary and definitely not in the public interest or necessity.

I am firmly opposed to this protectist action by the NAB, as it is will deny current subscribers access to these services that we deem valuable.

I ask only for the commission allow the natural, business competition forces of the marketplace to work and to let the consumers decide this issue.

